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CIGARETTES.

# The People.

A Weekly Newspaper for All Classes.

1,012. ONE PENNY. [A.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

LONDON, SUNDAY, MARCH 3, 1901.

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ADVERTISING, "STRAND, W.C."

SPECIAL  
SUNDAY EDITION.

THE WAR.

OTHRA MYSTERY.

THE SURRENDER  
RUMOUR.

ALLEGED NEGOTIATIONS.

Our correspondents at Bloemfontein report that Botha recently sent a message to Lord Kitchener to say that he would obtain an armistice. This it is said was the foundation for the surrender rumour.

In an interview with a representative of the "Puff Puff," the organ of Mr. Kruger's interests, it was decided that they did not believe that Botha had surrendered, and were convinced that he would do so even if De Wet captured him. That power was reserved to the Boer Government, as reported by Mr. Schatzkamp.

We have good reason for believing that the "Daily Chronicle" is right in saying that Botha's surrender was not actually in place, as we believe had been arranged. It had only been deferred in view of failure to arrive at an agreement on one or two minor points of detail.

The authorities in this country are awaiting that the information that comes from a reliable source will be officially announced (and not so to make any announcement in the subject until it can be definitely stated that the campaign is over) at all events as General Botha is informed, is over.

HOW DE WET SLIPPED  
PAST IN THE NIGHT.

A STRANGE REPORT.

Our special correspondent of the "Times" sends from Bloemfontein interesting details with regard to De Wet's movements from Feb. 28. Col. Palmer has kept up a most tenacious persistent pursuit of the enemy, since they were beaten at Vryheid, 25 miles north of Johannesburg, never made a stand, and have continuously in his possession, men and prisoners. On Feb. 28 Col. Palmer captured De Wet's last gun and the Boer commando's spring.

The enemy was in full retreat, and had fallen into the hands of a man brought from Kimberley, but past in the night.

At Colenso, where the Boers have held, regret bitterly the invitation of the Boers, as every one is evidently taken up, and receipts on the battle-field Free State Government are received.

De Wet, in his fanaticism, is resolved to be demoralized. It is said that Haenekom, who still has a compact crew, refused to co-operate with the hero.

COLONY OPERATIONS.

Col. Gorringe's column, says a later Cradock telegram, is still pursuing the Boers, and on Tuesday led them about eight miles to the west of the railway line between Groves and Conway. Groves is nearly midway between Cradock and Beaufort West, which are 62 miles apart. Conway is a few miles north of Groves.

THE TRANSVAAL.

LEAVING THE COUNTRY.

Our correspondent's columns under Gen. Smith-Dorrien and Alderson are co-operating the eastward movement directed by Gen. French. They are doing excellent work in clearing the country, have reported large captures of kips, wagons, and prisoners. They are in that part of the country quite demoralized according to the "Morning Post." French has captured 100 prisoners, and Gen. Alderson 50 prisoners.

EMPIRE YOUTH FOR THE FRONT.

A further draft of Imperial Troops left Aldershot yesterday morning for special train for Southampton, embark in the Normandie Castle for Cape. The men, to the number of 1,000, were drawn entirely from the 1st Battalion of Cambridge's Own, and were commanded by Capt. Stifford-Campbell, Lieuts. Banks and Bethell, drums of the 3rd Battalion Royal Hampshire Regt., played the draft of the Government siding, where they trained. A large number of friends and relatives of the departing troops gathered on the platform to give the train a hearty speeding, and as the train left the band played "Auld Lang Syne."

MILITARY FUNERALS.

The remains of the late George W. Bradley, 66th Royal Field Artillery, buried at Brighton cemetery, in full military honours. The remains of the late W. Pitt, a Royalist, were also interred at Brighton in full military honours.

THE YARMOUTH  
MURDER.

YESTERDAY'S  
PROCEEDINGS.

MORE WITNESSES FOR THE  
DEFENCE.

A MYSTERIOUS STRANGER.

STRANGE STORY OF A  
MISSING BOOTLACE.

ELOQUENT APPEAL BY MR.  
MARSHALL HALL.

MR. GILL'S REPLY.

THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE  
SUMS UP.

PRISONER FOUND GUILTY.

SENTENCED TO DEATH.

When the Lord Chief Justice took his seat at the Old Bailey yesterday morning to resume the trial of Herbert J. Bennett for the murder of his wife at Yarmouth on Sept. 22, there was a tremendous rush upon the court, which was packed to repletion when the proceedings opened. Mr. Marshall Hall, counsel for the defence, was to have addressed the jury, but immediately on the opening of the court, addressing the judge, he said a prisoner had just arrived from Mr. Driscoll, a solicitor of Liverpool, stating that he had made

A very remarkable confession to the police. He understood that this had been conveyed to the Yarmouth police, but apparently no notice had been taken of it. Mr. Driscoll would say that, on Sept. 22, a dark, tall man with a heavy, black mustache, about 5 ft. 8 in. in height, dressed in a dark grey overcoat, and wearing very spectacles, came into his shop and asked for a paper containing the best account of the Yarmouth murder. Mr. Driscoll noticed that the stranger's hands and face were spectators, and also that from one of his hands the leather tongue was protruding. Having obtained the paper he hurried away. Mr. Driscoll then communicated with the police, and was afterwards told that the Yarmouth police had been informed.

Mr. Driscoll was then called. He stated that he was a wholesale grocer, carrying on his business at Darby House, Liverpool. He followed the following telegrams yesterday morning at 2 a.m., to the solicitor for Bennett's defence in London:—"Have Yarmouth police made any report to you re the above case? If not, telephone to me. Most important."—Driscoll, Liverpool." In consequence of the reply he received he at once came to London. Mr. Driscoll proceeded to say that on Wednesday evening, Sept. 22, about half-past nine, a stranger came to his shop and asked for a paper containing a report of

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Yarmouth murders.

He was dressed in a long grey overcoat with a dark cloth belt underneath, and a rather grey cap. He said he did not care what paper he saw, so long as the report was a good one. The witness handed him a paper. He sat about among the columns for the report of the case, his hands shaking violently all the time, and as he could not find it witness pointed it out to him. As he read the paper he gave a groan and rushed away. During the man's presence in the shop witness had time to notice that his face was scratched, and his hands were wounded, especially his right hand, from which a portion of the skin had been torn, and a piece of white paper placed over it.

—A minute later.

From the stranger's hands witness was absolutely untroubled and undoubtedly false. Touching upon the most notorious event was pointing out that the man was found in Bennett's possession could not have been killed, and, therefore, if Mr. Hall had not the

means of proving

prisoner guilty, he

should be entitled to

a verdict of not guilty.

FOR THE DEFENCE.

Mr. Marshall Hall then rose, and resumed his address for the defence.

He asserted that the obligation upon the Crown to prove the prisoner guilty had failed, and, therefore, if Mr. Hall had not the

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## OUR OMNIBUS.

## THE CONDUCTOR.

"London is a wonderful town." Strangers from all parts of the world go home and repeat the trite observation. They have in their mode the police management of traffic, the busy scenes of trade and labour, and pleasure, Hyde Park in the season, the Palace of Parliament, the famous historic buildings, the royal and business palaces, clubs, music halls, and theatres, and the never-ceasing hum of this busy hive of men. If Londoners were as given of their great city as Great Britain's sons from over the seas, and jealous of its renown as the citizens of the smallest provincial city are jealous of theirs, the great town would have no rival either in administration, the beauty of its streets, or the perfection of its lighting, watering, cleaning, and paving.

But the local patriotism of the great provincial cities, the Scotsman's love of Edinburgh, the Birmingham man's boast of the civic government of his town, the splendid rivalry of Manchester and Liverpool, Yorkshire's pride in the cathedral and ancient walls of her capital, Plymouth's glory in her noble site on the Hoe, not to mention scores of other instances of local patriotism, has had no shadow of a counterpart in London. Bermondsey does not care a button what Marylebone may be doing, nor Marylebone what happens in St. Pancras, nor Islington how Westminster is preserving or neglecting her ancient legacies of church and palace. Nor do they care very much about their own parochial affairs, if one may judge by the men they elect to administer them.

This is the era of "new versions," now "version" of "Masks and Faces," and a "new version" of "All that Glitters is not Gold" is to appear soon in the provinces. The latter, it seems, is to be rechristened "The Language of Florence." "All That Glitters" is not altogether unknown to the younger generation of playgoers. It was revived a few years since at the Adelphi, with I think, Mr. Harry Nicholls as the Toxie Twinkle. Truly old-fashioned is this piece, in great need of being brought "down to date." If used at all, why not allow the old fossils to remain where they are.

## BUCKLAND, JUNIOR.

From the report of the Society for the Protection of Birds made at the tenth annual meeting at Hanover-square on Wednesday last it was evident that the society has done some excellent work during the past year and that its efforts, in many directions, have met with reward, & at any rate, have not been in vain. Various new branches of the society have been formed in the country, the most recent being in Shetland, where the protection of the skua and other sea-birds is principally aimed at. The reports of the foreign branches of the society and of kindred institutions with which the society is in correspondence were also read, and they all showed that much was being accomplished for the sake of the birds and that the utmost was being done to lessen the great traffic in their bright feathers.

The frequency with which accounts of the destruction of rare animals, both indigenous and migratory to this country, appear in the Press really makes one feel concerned as to whether, in a few years time, we shall have any animals left at all save the most common and noxious ones, which, strange to say, are paid no attention to by the destroyers of the rarer species. From Pakesham I hear another fine otter has been ruthlessly shot, and from Moulton there comes the news that a fine pole-cat was recently captured there in a rabbit trap.

This confession, not to mention "The People's," will gratify that provincial pride which I have been extolling. But to admit defects should be the first step to amendment. If the police management of the traffic of the streets were as bad as that of the independent bodies having power to break up the roads when and how they please, we should appear to strangers, as we probably are in fact, one of the worst and most expensively governed cities in the Empire.

There are, however, not wanting signs that better days are in store for the great town. The County Council must be credited with much good work, and with an ambition not unworthy of their powers. The new corporations, with their new honours of vestments and chains, may be expected to show a practical appreciation of the responsibilities they have undertaken. But at present we are a long way behind those cities of the Empire that control their own gas and water and electric light, and are largely responsible for the efficiency of tram-lines and omnibuses. One thing, however, is pretty certain to be taken hold of with vigour, and that is the proper housing of the poor and working classes. When London electors take the greatest questions of local government seriously to heart, the public bodies which they elect will be equally alive to their duties, but not before.

## THE ACTOR.

In "As You Like It" at the Comedy just now, the part of Amiens is being undertaken by a lady—Miss Jessie Baumares—who graduated at the Savoy, and has since had a good deal of experience on the provincial stage, touring in musical pieces. I once before saw Amiens played by an actress, and that was one afternoon at the Prince of Wales's some years ago, where the whole cast of the play was feminine. That was an experiment! Fancy the two Dukes, and Adam, and Jaques represented by ladies! It was a mirthful afternoon, but I do not think the experiment is likely to be repeated.

Mrs. Patrick Campbell, it would seem, retains her hold upon the aristocratic class. I gather that on Wednesday, when "Mrs. Ebbsmith" was revived at the Royalty, the audience included one duchess, two earls, one countess, and some half a dozen other titl'd ladies, not to mention two "Honourable Misses." It seems, too, that Signor Tosini was there. That Mrs. Pinero should be present was natural enough. Even for a revival an interesting "premiere" audience can be got together. Besides, do not the persons of "Mrs. Ebbsmith" include a duke and a baronet? The "bad baronet," by the way, has gone out of the dramatic fashion.

Miss Katie Seymour is no longer in the cast at the Gaiety, her long engagement with Mr. George Edwardes having

at an end. Miss Connie Edis will also soon retire from the field, having arranged to join the company at the Lyric, when "The Silver Slipper" is put on. Miss Seymour's retirement will, no doubt, give opportunities to other dancers, though we do not possess many. Miss Margaret Fraser is, I think, the most promising at the Gaiety just now. Meanwhile, no one has yet quite filled the void made by the retirement of Miss Sylvia Grey.

Miss Edis is one of those personalities whose place cannot be supplied by another. She is—as far as the world knows—unique. She can be imitated, no doubt. Miss Irene Verona, who has been playing Miss Edis's parts in the country and suburbs, reproduces very closely and cleverly Miss Edis's peculiar voice and laugh. Still, no imitation, however good, can make up for the loss of the original, and at the Gaiety, where she was so thoroughly in touch with the public, she is certain to be missed. I once heard her sing a Gaiety song at a charity performance (not in a theatre), and it rather fired me.

We have had revivals of late of an opera by Offenbach and of another by Leocad. It is said these are to be followed up by a reconstruction of "Geneviève de Brabant." Well, the old piece might "go" again, for all one knows. Why, however, dare no one think of reproducing "Girondi-Giroldi," surely one of the most sparkling of the series, as regards both libretto and music? The great drawback to operas, as a rule, is the insanity of its plots and dialogue. When Mr. Carte revived "The Grand Duchess," he took care to get the "book" rewritten, though the result was not brilliant. In "Giroldi-Giroldi" the plot is genuinely mirth-provoking.

This is the era of "new versions," now "version" of "Masks and Faces," and a "new version" of "All that Glitters is not Gold" is to appear soon in the provinces. The latter, it seems, is to be rechristened "The Language of Florence." "All That Glitters" is not altogether unknown to the younger generation of playgoers. It was revived a few years since at the Adelphi, with I think, Mr. Harry Nicholls as the Toxie Twinkle. Truly old-fashioned is this piece, in great need of being brought "down to date." If used at all, why not allow the old fossils to remain where they are.

That is how it is in the police force. When a man has been a constable for 25 years, he can, if he likes, retire on his pension; but if he prefers to stay on, so long as he continues able-bodied and can pass the doctor, he is allowed to do so.

Talking about policemen, I often wonder how it is that there is such a great difference between the pay of a City and a Metropolitan constable.

A City man starts with 2s. per week,

and in six years, by a rise of 2s. each

year, reaches 4s., and after 15 years

service receives 2s. 6d. per week extra (as merit money), making it 4s. 6d. per week.

The metropolitan man starts with 2s. 6d. per week, and in eight years, by a rise of 1s. per year, reaches 3s. 6d.—that is, 6s. 6d. per week less than the City man. In fact, it takes a metropolitan sergeant eight years to get as high pay as a City private can reach. I don't say the City man's pay should come down to the level of the metropolitan man, but I don't see any reason why the metropolitan man's pay should not come up to the City level. Their work is just as hard, if not harder.

I wonder what the "education cranks," who used to tell us that "opening our schools would mean closing our prisons" and "the more education the less crime," etc., think when they see the criminal statistics just issued for 1899. It is, I am sorry to see, a record. The number of persons apprehended or cited during the 12 months was 176,000, the previous maximum having been 165,000 in 1898. So Board School cramming don't seem to do much good.

## PIPER PAN.

One of Queen Victoria's sincerest mourners is M. Paderewski. The famous pianist played to her Majesty only last June, and he says he shall never forget the impression made upon him by her intelligence and goodness and knowledge of music. M. Paderewski was surprised, too, to find that the Queen remembered the names of pieces which he had performed on a visit to Windsor Castle eight years previously.

The dates of Dr. Richter's summer orchestral concerts in London are now fixed. They are only three, and will be at St. James's Hall on May 20, June 3 and 10. Dr. Richter goes to Bayreuth in July.

Signor Puccini is said to be considering "The Second Mrs. Tanqueray" as the subject of an opera. Mr. Pinero's play is no doubt suited in everything except modern costume for a musical setting, and that difficulty could be easily overcome.

Although he is expected in England this week, M. Paderewski has not arranged to give any recitals in town but goes on a provincial tour. He has just concluded an immensely successful series of recitals in Monte Carlo and Nice. Only twice in the last three years, if I am not mistaken, has the great pianist been heard in London.

Six violin recitals at St. James's Hall have been arranged for the Paganini player, Herr Kublik, by Mr. Vert, between May 4 and June 8. Senior Bassane will, however, not play in town until next year, although he will probably tour in the English provinces this autumn. Dr. Greig, too, has almost decided to postpone coming to London until the spring of 1902.

During the last week in March some stage performances will be given at the Coronet Theatre by the Purcell Opera Society of "Dido and Aeneas" and "Dionysius." Purcell's works are, of course, well known in the concert room, but they are rarely represented on the stage, the performance of "Dido" by the students of the Royal College of Music, a few years ago, being one of the occasions. "Dionysius" was the only opera that Purcell published during his lifetime, and it was issued in 1691.

May 14 will be the fortieth anniversary of Madame Adelina Patti's debut at Covent Garden. There are still several eminent musical critics living who were present on the occasion, and who are always willing to describe how she first amazed, and then entranced her audience by the beauty of her voice, and sympathetic personality. It was as Adelina in Bellini's "La Sonnambula" that Madame Patti first sang at Covent Garden.

Shortly after Easter the new Beach concert hall will be opened, and judging from concert dates already booked, it promises to be a popular

building with entertainment. As the body of a newly-killed individual that has given rise to the notion.

I have to offer my thanks to a correspondent of Oxford for a long letter giving an account of the life and death of his three pets, all of which had been since their birth-day in my correspondent's possession and had attained exceptionally great ages before joining the majority. They were two cats and a dog. The dog—a small Shy-terrier—was twenty years and six months on its death. One of the cats—a male—was twenty-one years, and the other—a female—seventeen years.

The additions to the Ecological Society's menagerie during the week ending Feb. 26 include two white-collared mangabeys, a bay duiker, a red mangabey, four California quails, four Virginian collies, a jay, a jackdaw, a martin, a rook, a barn owl, a great antelope, two dwarf chameleons, a sooty mangabey, a white-fronted capuchin, two emus, a red-breasted thrush, a rose-coloured pastor, two fox sparrows, two chipping sparrows, two snow-birds, two white-throated sparrows, two undulated grass parakeets.

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OLD ZIAK.

March promises well, and unless exceptional weather sets in, the coarse fishing season will end better than expected. Thames trout fishing does not commence until April, but several fine fish have lately been hooked. Mr. Fulton (Earlsfield Anglers) took one 3m. long, and weighing about 10lb., when Jack fishing at Tuddington on Sunday last, which, like the others, was carefully released and returned to the water uninjured.

Some grand roach have been landed during the week, the finest of which, a fish scaling 2lb., was caught by Mr. Jeffrey, of Richmond, of Orleans House, at Twickenham, when fishing with A. Turner, and two others, scaling 1lb. each, were among his take. Mr. Meare, fishing with Barnett, at Hampton, landed three pike, only the heaviest of which (weighing 1lb.) was retained. At Staines, Mr. Digby and Mr. Leppings, both piloted by "Otter Hole," had a number of jack; Mr. Leppings taking eight, five of which were returned to the river. Mr. R. J. Wellman, fishing in the same locality, took two pike scaling 1lb. and 7lb. 2oz. respectively, in addition to a perch of 1lb.

Pike have been well on the feed in the Canterbury Stour, and on Monday last two visitors to Grove Ferry caught 3lb. in three hours' fishing: these two best fish scaling 16lb. together. Several anglers have recently had good catches from the same water. The Arun at Amberley has also fished well, and Mr. C. A. Martin, of the West London Angling Society, secured a prize with a 1lb. roach, caught there during their recent competition.

From St. Ives (Hants), Mr. Collinson, the secretary of the local association, informs me that weather and water are alike favourable for fishing now, and a pike scaling 16lb. roach of 1lb. 7oz., and a lot of chub have just been weighed in. Pike fishing ceased in the association water at the end of February, but visitors should do well during the next fortnight among the roach.

The following advertisement has been appearing in the "Cape Times" a few days since by Mr. E. T. Ryan, of Stamford in the Cape, on behalf of Fetheringham. Mr. Ryan has had several fine catches from the same water, but the 25lb. fish now landed beats his previous record.

Central Association delegates may be reminded of their monthly meeting, which takes place at the Bedford Head Hotel, Covent Garden, on Monday, at 9 p.m. sharp. Mr. C. A. Medcalf (president) will occupy the chair.

Mr. Alfred Nuttall, J.P., ably presided over the Thames Angling Preservation Society's meeting on Tuesday last. Mr. H. W. Higgins (hon. sec.) reported a balance of £108 in hand. It was resolved to ask the King to grant the society his patronage, as he had graciously done when Prince of Wales. Mr. J. V. Eyre (head river-keeper) was in attendance, and the report of the month's work was highly satisfactory.

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On Monday, March 18, I am invited to the Wimborne and Merton Conservative Club's Debating Society to attend a special debate upon the taxation of cycles or cyclists. I notice that when they see the criminal statistics just issued for 1899. It is, I am sorry to see, a record. The number of persons apprehended or cited during the 12 months was 176,000, the previous maximum having been 165,000 in 1898. So Board School cramming don't seem to do much good.

I wonder what the "education cranks," who used to tell us that "opening our schools would mean closing our prisons" and "the more education the less crime," etc., think when they see the criminal statistics just issued for 1899. It is, I am sorry to see, a record. The number of persons apprehended or cited during the 12 months was 176,000, the previous maximum having been 165,000 in 1898. So Board School cramming don't seem to do much good.

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of snow and ice, and should now be in a fair condition. Although the ordinary angler's tickles are not available in these waters, there are weekend tickets issued by the G.E.R. Ry. Co. to many stations in proximity, enabling them to be quickly and cheaply reached. A little later on, and the fish will be well in spate, when the trout sportsman will make a clean sweep for himself, and lay aside his rod.

Mr. C. O. Minchin ably presided at the annual meeting of the British Sea Anglers' Society on Wednesday last. The report and balance-sheet were discussed at length, and the society was voted to have new over 770 members on its register. Mr. E. H. C. Corfe was the winner of the society's gold medal and also the Dual Corporation Cup, and Mrs. Gillings took the silver medal awarded to lady anglers for the greatest number of sizeable fish in one day's take. The season has been had all round for sea angling, and freshwater fisherman may have the same time.

Speaking of underwear, there is quite a revolution in the shape of corsets, and at the present time I believe that there is hardly a Paris dressmaker who will make for a customer unless wearing the new straight-fronted corset. The front bands are made perfectly straight, so that viewed from the side a perfectly straight line of figure is ensured. It really seems as if there were as much fashion in figures as there is in hair-dressing, and it is certainly true that types change with the times. Tiny waists are out of date now, and there is no doubt that these new corsets are adapted to preserve the natural grace of the figure. The price is £1 1s. each.

The Winifreda Costume shows a pretty variation of the still popular bolero. It is composed of black cloth, and is ornamented with a fastening of buttons and piping with black velvet. The sleeves have two narrow bands of black velvet, a and the waist is finished also with a band of velvet cut on the cross. The under blouse and sleeves are of grey panne with large, irregular, black spots. At the neck there is a smart bow of panne with the cuffs to the waist. The sleeves are of the plain material. It would be worth while to have the under blouse made entire, so that the bolero could slip on and off. The skirt is somewhat in design, having a scalloped yoke of spotted panne, and a broad insertion on the same lines at the foot of the skirt.

These Members of Parliament who had ballotted for "The Lights on all vehicles" and "The railway bills" have not, unfortunately, been successful in their drawing. The best position secured being 22 by Sir George Newnes, M.P. These will therefore, be no chance of either bill reaching a second reading during the present session of Parliament. The N.C.U. have, however, arranged that both bills shall be



## THE THEATRES.

## COMEDY.

In common with Mr. Benson's previous Shakespearian productions, his revival of "As You Like It" on Wednesday evening exhibited such fresh intelligence in his treatment of the text, as well as the manner of the scene, as induced attention and commanded respect. As regards the acting, the most notable feature in the general case was the Rollin of Mrs. Benson. With a presence rendered illusive by its femininity, winsomeness, yet boyish within, the lady displayed a histrioic distinction never before shown by her; at once varied in sporting playfulness, gradations of light and shade, and accomplishment, which wanted only breadth to fit the requisite fulness of expression. Singular grace cannot be given Mr. Benson for his middle-aged Orlando—character which, of all others, demands the grace of youth to the eye in the speech, and the feeling. None of these qualifications were, indeed, could be shown in the part by the player, whose face, voice, and entire physique indicate set and strident manhood. The actor-manager for once misceant himself. Mr. Weir made a sufficiently sententious Touchstone, and Miss C. Robertson a pleasant Colia.

The wrestling scene went well, showing Mr. Benson as an athlete in his realistic tussle, for a fall with the tall and stalwart Mr. Oscar Asche as Charles. This gentleman also figured picturequely as the banished Duke. Though picturesque in make-up, the Jaques of Mr. E. L. Swete with his agreeable smile was altogether too amiable for the moodily melancholy moralist. Mr. Brydone gave a powerful portrayal of old Adam, and the general presentation furnished yet another proof of Mr. Benson's sure and scholarly management.

## ROYALTY.

Mrs. Patrick Campbell having dismissed "Mr. and Mrs. Daventry" from her theatre, continued the traffic of its stage on Wednesday with a revival of Mr. Pinner's play, "The Notorious Mrs. Ebbetham." Resuming her impersonation of the horrid-minded woman who courts the notoriety which extricates her, by setting at defiance all laws, social, moral, and religious, the popular actress again exercised her influence upon the audience by the paradoxical feat of characterizing herself most attractive in a character which is least so. Mrs. Ebbetham, as common with Mrs. and Mrs. Tanqueray, as played by Mrs. Campbell, engages the interest and rivets the attention of playgoers owing to the strangely illusive power of her personality in depicting the seamy side of human nature as expressed through pessimism. The lady's petulant play of feature, sparse form, and plaintive sententious monotone of voice, lead themselves to this depressing expression, the force of which, whether a merit or otherwise, is possessed by her in a more marked degree than by any other actress of the time.

In other respects the acting declines from the high quality of the original performers, as seen years ago at the Garrick. But although the Lucas Cleve of Mr. Courtney Thorpe, despite his earnest endeavour, fails short of Mr. Forbes Robertson's impersonation, and the mental and bodily decrepitude of the selfish old worldling, Duke of St. Olipherts, as enacted by Mr. G. Arliss, cannot bear comparison with the original assumption by Mr. John Hare, these parts—together with those taken by Messrs. Du Maurier, B. Thomas, and H. Sturge, Miss W. Fraser and Miss F. Faber, making up the chief members of the company—give a fair interpretation of the play, serving to present its characters for what they are worth.

## OUR LOCAL THEATRES.

A new theatre for Hammersmith is, it is stated, to be erected shortly on a site at the corner of Hammersmith, close to Hammersmith Broadway.

Considerable success is attending the visit of Messrs. Anthony Hope and Edward Rose's "Neil Gwynn" to the Grand, Islington. Miss Kitty Loftus invests the character of the light and good-hearted Neil with considerable distinction, playing with all possible vivacity in the brighter moments, and showing herself possessed of considerable powers in the more sombre periods of the play. Mr. Cosmo Stuart makes a gallant hero, and Miss Bertha Stanton a delightful lover, while the Royal lover Mr. Charles Orton, in all that could be desired. "Neil Gwynn," remaining at Islington for another week, and a play so designed and so excellently presented by the company concerned is one not to be missed.

The inhabitants of Balham and the neighbourhood are offered a special treat to-night (Sunday) in a concert and lecture at the Royal Duchess Theatre, Balham, when Mademoiselle Roma, the American prima donna, will make her first appearance in Balham. The Savoy Gee Singers give three selections from their many successes, and Mr. Alexander Edwards contributes two cornet solos.

"Mr. and Mrs. Kendall and their company pay the Kennington Theatre a welcome visit next week, with a Thursday matinee.

A new drama, "Night and Morning," by Frank Lido, is due at Hoxton tomorrow. Other fixtures are Mr. Wodehouse, "The Geisha"; Camdes, "The Fall of Mademoiselle Angot"; Coronet, "Love Wins dermer's Fan"; Crown, "The Degen rales"; Kensington, "The Likenesses of the Night"; Metropole, Mr. Edward Terry with his repertoire; Elephant and Castle, "Quo Vadis"; Fulham, "Drink"; Pavilion, "Tommy Atkins"; Standard, Turner's Opera Co.; Britannia, "King Don Dab"; Grand (Islington), "English Nell"; Survey, "The Worst Woman in London"; Terrier's, "Man to Man"; Dalton, "The Swiss Express"; Borrough (Stratford), "The Silver King"; Shakespeare, "The Favourite"; Broadway, "Two Little Vagabonds"; Lyric, "The Scarlet Sin"; and West London, "The Passion of Lite."

## METROPOLIS.

Nothing is new under the sun, and especially is this true of "new and original drama," even from specimens of which there is a more or less ingenuous variant of a fixed type. The latest offering by Alfred P. Robbins and Paul Morris, which has been successfully produced at Camberwell, is no exception to the rule, though it has some freshness in its treatment of the story which will make for the play's success. The self-sacrificing hero is, in fact, no faultless paragon of virtue, but has himself been led astray by the villain of the piece. It is, however, needless to go through all the points in a familiar melodramatic story, suffice it to say that the play is well received. Its dialogue is crisp and full of point, while the comic relief is above the average. When the case



JEANIE ALBINI.

stock acquisition of the music-halls, and very excellent in the series that grace the "Hall" of Holloway. Miss Jessie Albinia is a very spirited serio-comic, and her essays, "Hal-Hai" and another humorous song, are greeted with much favour.

There are plenty of good things in the Cafe Chantant at the Crystal Palace, including Master Archie, who always has a good time, and the second edition of "Chris' and Archie," a series of songs of laughter. The amateur is a droll photograph, and are becoming quite a music-hall's attraction during the past week.

Mr. George Irving, despite all rumours to the contrary, has at last settled to carry out, as the great novelty of his forthcoming season at the Lyceum, his long deferred purpose of producing "Coriolanus," designs for the scenery of which Sir Alma Tadema has entrusted to Mr. Hawes Craven and Mr. Barker. This classical production will be characterized by rare spectacular magnificence.

When Mr. George Edwards in September re-opens the theatre now being reconstructed on the site of the Adelphi, the new house, as it will become, is to be called by quite a different name, probably the Century. The first production by the new tenant Mr. T. B. Davis, is an American play entitled "The Whirl of the Town," in which Miss M. Lessing will be seen. The opening is likely to be in June.

GERMANY AND CHINA.

Mr. Norman asked Lord Cranbourne if Germany exacted money from the local authorities in China without previous consultation with the other Powers, and was told that fines had been levied by Count von Waldersee, who, in so doing, exercised a perfectly legitimate discretion.

Ministers were again bombarded by Irish and pro-Boro members with questions relating to the conduct of the war.—Subsequently the House went into Committee of Supply. In the course of the evening there was some discussion on the position and salary of the Prime Minister.

LONDON, SCHOOL BOARD.

At the weekly meeting, Mr. Graham Wallas, in moving that the statement with reference to the position of higher elements of education in London and the effect of the Coroner's judgment on training continuation schools, prepared by the School Management Committee, should be sent to the London members of Parliament, sharply criticized the statement on the subject made by the Duke of Devonshire in the House of Lords.—Mr. Thompson and Maj. Skinner defended, and Rev. A. Jephcott condemned the position taken by the Duke, while Sir C. Elliott said that, though a strong Conservative, he had read the Duke's speech with the utmost distress and alarm.—After some further discussion the resolution was carried to

order.

THE PEOPLE'S COLLECTIVE FISHING FUND DINNER.

The 10th annual Fisheries Exhibition will open at the Royal Aquarium on Thursday, and continue for four weeks. It will be a representative and attractive display, and of interest to the general

public. The entertainment, which on judicious compression has been effected, "Old Scores" should find a hearty welcome wherever it is played. On the opening night the authors were called before the curtain, but Mr. Robbins alone responded, Mr. Mulligan stating that "Paul Merrit" was not in the front of the box, and was a good one. Mr. Philip Cunningham giving a breezy representation of the good-hearted sturdy young peasant, who sold his tongue to save his sister's name, and, at the last, withheld his hand from vengeance. The villain was capitally played by Mr. S. T. Ewart, and Mr. F. Llewellyn gave due weight to the heavy father, Sir Mark Whately. Mr. Julian presented a good imitation of Mr. Nainby in the part of Pierre Laverrier, while the rôle of Sir Mark's steward, a comic policeman and old-timer, was excellently played by Messrs. F. A. Curzon, Somers Bellamy, and Richard Purdon respectively, though the Westcountry accent at times triumphed over Cornwall in the case of the last mentioned. The hero's mother and sister, and a comic soubrette, were adequately represented by Misses E. Lovett, Laura Johnson, and Mabel Dent, while the part of Rose Pentreath was particularly well played by Miss Adeline Bourne, though she slightly marred an excellent performance by a tendency to gabble. The comedy of the exhibition was to remain open until the end of the month.

DRAMATIC & MUSICAL GOSSIP.

Mr. Melville announces the fourth week of the Grand English Opera season at the Standard Theatre.

Miss Kate Herko is to revive Mr. Mizzi's play, "A Fool's Paradise," at the Comedy Theatre on March 15.

Miss Alice D'Orme has resigned her part of Tung Shih in "San Toy," and has gone to Paris to complete her studies with Signor Shaglia.

The success of "The Notorious Mrs. Ebbetham" enables Mrs. Patrick Campbell to announce matines every Wednesday and Saturday.

On Friday evening, at the Hotel Cecil next Sunday, with Mr. Geo. Alexander as the chief guest.

RICHMOND.

There is a certain Eastern picturesqueness about the setting of Mr. Frank Stayton's new play, "The Despatch-Bearer," and the fact that the scene is laid principally in China often occasioned a stirring and not uninteresting debate in what presumably is a Chinese form of calligraphy.

The considerations apart, the story of the secret despatch, and how the hero, Captain Edmund, a King's messenger, managed to outwit the members of the Brotherhood of Seven, is sufficiently interesting to the public to warrant a second act.

The new musical piece, entitled "The Fortune-Teller," is to be brought out by Mr. G. M. Mungrove at the Shaftesbury Theatre, is now in rehearsal.

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## TALK OF THE PEOPLE.

## L.C.C. ELECTIONS.

## POLLING YESTERDAY.

## RESULTS.

Sunday Morning.  
One result of the election for the L.C.C. which has just been held is that we shall have no more of the presence of not fighting municipal contests on party lines. It has been a straight party fight as far as the candidates have been concerned, and those electors who have been deceived by Progressive protestations that the contest was not a political one have only themselves to thank. It is not from want of warning that they have been misled, for it has been pointed out to them again and again that "Progressive" is simply "Radical" writ large, and that the party in the Council is identical in every respect—except ability—with that in the House.

The attack upon Lord Salisbury's salary as Lord Privy Seal in the House of Commons on Friday night was one of the most absurd things I ever heard. Nobody really believed in it, and those who initiated it hardly even pretended to be doing more than playing to the Radical gallery. Everybody realises that we got our Prime Minister unconsciously cheap, and I don't think that even the most arid Radical would in his heart object if it were proposed to pay the Prime Minister of the British Empire say, about half as much as a really successful lawyer, or a quarter of what an able man would expect to make in business.

Besides, the whole thing is upset by the fact that the great ideal of the Radicals, the late Mr. Gladstone, had not the slightest hesitation in taking additional salary when he filled more than one office. From April in 1858 to December in 1868 he was Chancellor of the Exchequer as well as First Lord of the Treasury, and drew his £2,500 a year for the former office in addition to his £4,000 for the latter. This is not the least reproach to his memory, for he was perfectly entitled to do so; but it really drives his followers from reproaching Lord Salisbury for accepting his modest £2,000 a year as Lord Privy Seal.

It is foolishly said that there ought to be no sinecure office in the Cabinet, and that only a Minister who has definite work ought to be admitted within that sacred body and receive the nation's pay. The people who argue in this way seem to think that the work of a Minister is like that of a clerk, and that, if he is not to many hours at his desk in the day, he cannot be worth his salary. Most Ministers work unconsciously hard, as a matter of fact; but anybody not a perfect idiot can see it might well be worth the nation's while to pay a huge annual salary to a man who would give really good advice on matters of high policy at critical moments, and who never did any administrative work at all.

You can get an excellent clerk for £200 a year; you can get an excellent Minister for £25,000. The woods, to an American, are full of them. But of the kind of man who can steer the British Empire through all the shoals and quicksands that lie before us, who can rule its thousand races and who can maintain its honour and its interests without every day upholding the sword, there are only one or two born in a generation, and they are cheap, when you can get them, at any price. Who can measure the value of the services of Pitt or Palmerston in money?

To their credit be it spoken, the official Radicals in the House of Commons are prepared to meet the proposals for the King's Civil List in the most generous spirit. One or two of their more turbulent followers intend, I believe, to make themselves offensive on the subject, and the Irish Nationalists may, of course, be trusted to do everything which had taste and an abominated hate for this country can dictate. But neither the former nor the latter are of the slightest importance, and nobody is likely to pay the least attention to anything they may say. The King's Civil List will be, as I have pointed out before, the work of both the great parties—that is to say, of a nation, and not of any section of it.

I am not at all surprised that some very strong remarks should have been made during the Bennett trial on the proceedings of the half-penny press. It is not a bit too much to say that the prisoner was tried before he ever came to face the jury. Enterprise is all very well, and I am glad to commend it, but I do think that more than one sensational case of late sufficient care has not been taken to avoid bringing the accused. It might never be forgotten that prejudice is very easily excited, but very hardily allayed, and that a man may easily be prejudiced in actual fact while believing himself to be absolutely free from any taint of the sort.

There ought not to be any objection to the proposal for the appointment of a Joint Committee of both Houses to consider the various charities for the widows and orphans of our fighting men in connection with the government scheme of pensions. The inquiry is very much needed, as we shall have all sorts of overlapping, with the result that some of those who are not at all in need will be helped, while many who are very much in need will be left comparatively destitute. Charity reconstruction like everything else, and the Government are really not yet in full possession of the facts relating to what has been already provided.

It is not at all surprising that the Radicals should have been able to win Maidstone. It is a common axiom among politicians that when an election petition is successful the side making it never wins the election which next follows. It is impossible that a case can be presented without leading on a good many people's sides, and the consequence is that one always has to wait for a year or two to allow the true feeling of the constituency to show itself. We shall win Maidstone all right in time.

WIDE AWAKE.

## HAMPSTEAD.

Mr. S. Fletcher (U)..... 2,478  
W. E. Mullins (U)..... 2,321  
C. Bond, M.P. (U)..... 2,024  
Radical gain of one.

1890.—Fletcher (U)..... Bond (U),  
2,027; Dobson (U), 1,979; Wilberforce (U), 1,972.

HOLBORN.

Sir H. Blom (U)..... 2,149  
C. Swindon (U)..... 2,125  
H. Cohen (U)..... 1,656  
No change.

1890.—Bartley (U)..... 2,117; Dixie-Puyard (U), 2,011; Moore (U), 1,931.

DIXON.

R. Austin (U)..... 2,279  
H. Ward (U)..... 2,252  
Dr. Davis (U)..... 1,579  
No change.

1890.—Ward (U)..... 2,172; Favell (U), 2,017; Arter (U), 1,952; Shaw (U), 1,848.

BERMONDSEY.

Dr. G. Cooper (U)..... 2,147  
A. A. Allen (U)..... 2,086  
J. Cox (U)..... 1,984  
A. Layman (U)..... 1,928  
No change.

1890.—Dr. Cooper (U)..... 2,147; Thornton (U), 2,050; Tyrell (U), 2,026; Morrow (U), 1,924.

On the retirement of Mr. J. Thornton, he was succeeded by Mr. A. A. Allen (U), who was unopposed.

BETHLEHEM GREEN.

Smith (U)..... 2,020  
A. Cornwall (U)..... 2,025  
C. Bruce (U)..... 1,821  
Cartert Collins (U)..... 1,655  
No change.

1890.—Frost (U)..... 2,070; Cornwall (U), 2,026; Nis (U), 1,811; Saxon (U), 1,825.

SOUTH-WEST.

J. Branch (U)..... 2,401  
W. Wiles (U)..... 2,325  
Barl of Kilmarnock (U)..... 1,925  
J. T. Colman (U)..... 1,829  
No change.

1890.—J. Branch (U)..... 2,401; Frost (U), 2,070; Colman (U), 2,025; Barl (U), 1,825; Shirley (U), 1,874; Jones (U), 1,821. On the death of Mr. Colman he was succeeded by Mr. J. T. Wiles (U).

BRIXTON.

J. Dolman (U)..... 2,046  
J. Sharp (U)..... 2,025  
W. J. Bell (U)..... 1,920  
C. Jerome (U)..... 2,126  
Radical gain of one.

1890.—Hayden (U)..... 2,046; Jerome (U), 2,020; Horley (U), 1,920; Howard (U), 2,020.

CAMBERWELL.

W. Strong (U)..... 2,046  
J. Taylor (U)..... No change.  
1890.—Strong (U)..... 2,077; Taylor (U), 2,021; Lushington (U), 1,824; Anderson (U), 1,774.

CHELSEA.

J. Jeffreys (U)..... 4,222  
J. Horniman (U)..... 4,221  
L. M. Montagu (U)..... 2,026  
Maj. Elliot (U)..... 2,022  
No change.

1890.—Jeffrey (U)..... 4,222; Horniman (U), 2,026; Chapman (U), 2,023; Melville-Lugard (U), 2,022.

CLAPHAM.

Col. Rotton (U)..... 4,141  
T. P. Gaskill (U)..... 4,065  
H. Hewitt (U)..... 3,935  
No change.

1890.—Col. Rotton (U)..... 4,141; Corbett (U), 4,072; Martens (U), 2,320; Geiling (U), 2,042.

DEPTFORD.

Sidney Webb (U)..... 5,426  
H. C. Philimore (U)..... 5,249  
T. W. Marchant (U)..... 2,025  
P. H. M. Wayne (U)..... 2,750  
No change.

1890.—Webb (U)..... 5,426; Philimore (U), 5,245; Marchant (U), 2,025; Wayne (U), 2,750; Yallop (U), 2,321.

DULWICH.

G. A. Hardy (U)..... 2,012  
R. C. Cowen (U)..... 2,025  
J. A. Thornhill (U)..... 2,042  
Radical gain of one.

1890.—Hardy (U)..... 2,012; Cowen (U), 2,025; Cowen (U), 2,042; Allen (U), 2,022.

FINSBURY.

Capt. Hemphill (U)..... 2,020  
J. Smith (U)..... 2,027  
P. Rutland (U)..... 1,782  
S. Low (U)..... 1,728  
Radical gain of two.

1890.—Rutland (U), 2,020; Hemphill (U), 2,027; Smith (U), 2,027; Low (U), 1,728.

FULHAM.

T. Davies (U)..... 5,341  
P. Lawson (U)..... 5,235  
G. E. Easton (U)..... 5,057  
Sir Cameron Gull (U)..... 5,055  
Radical gain of two.

1890.—Wolverton (U)..... 5,345; Peppercorn (U), 5,235; Shirendale (U), 5,055; M'Carthy (U), 5,055.

GREENWICH.

W. C. Jackson (U)..... 4,245  
P. W. Warmington (U)..... 4,127  
J. E. Shaw (U)..... 3,926  
Mrs. Marcus (U)..... 3,970  
Sir W. Porte (U)..... 3,926  
No change.

1890.—Jackson (U)..... 4,245; Warmington (U), 4,127; Marcus (U), 3,970; Porte (U), 3,926; M'Carthy (U), 5,055.

HACKNEY.

W. S. Jackson (U)..... 4,245  
P. W. Warmington (U)..... 4,127  
J. E. Shaw (U)..... 3,926  
Mrs. Marcus (U)..... 3,970  
Sir W. Porte (U)..... 3,926  
No change.

1890.—Jackson (U)..... 4,245; Warmington (U), 4,127; Marcus (U), 3,970; Porte (U), 3,926; M'Carthy (U), 5,055.

HARROW.

G. Lampard (U)..... 4,435  
J. E. Scott (U)..... 4,257  
H. Forman (U)..... 2,026  
J. Richmond (U)..... 2,019  
Radical gain of one.

1890.—Forman (U)..... 2,027; Lampard (U), 4,435; Shaw (U), 2,026; Pritchard (U), 2,026; Reynolds (U), 1,778.

HATFIELD.

A. J. Sheehan (U)..... 2,021  
Dr. L. Johnson (U)..... 1,742  
C. Cartwright (U)..... 1,698  
No change.

1890.—Sheehan (U)..... 2,021; Johnson (U), 1,742; Cartwright (U), 1,698; Pritchard (U), 2,026; Reynolds (U), 1,778.

HAWTHORPE.

W. E. Brown (U)..... 2,021  
J. Blackwood (U)..... 1,916  
H. P. Morris (U)..... 1,826  
Dr. L. Johnson (U)..... 1,742  
Radical gain of one.

1890.—Brown (U)..... 2,021; Blackwood (U), 1,916; Morris (U), 1,826; Johnson (U), 1,742; Pritchard (U), 2,026; Reynolds (U), 1,778.

HOLLOWAY.

W. E. Brown (U)..... 2,021  
J. Blackwood (U)..... 1,916  
H. P. Morris (U)..... 1,826  
Dr. L. Johnson (U)..... 1,742  
Radical gain of one.

1890.—Brown (U)..... 2,021; Blackwood (U), 1,916; Morris (U), 1,826; Johnson (U), 1,742; Pritchard (U), 2,026; Reynolds (U), 1,778.

HORNWOOD.

N. W. Hubbard (U)..... 2,720  
G. Shrubshall (U)..... 2,626  
Dr. R. Oxley (U)..... 2,708  
J. Cutler (U)..... 2,029  
Radical gain of two.

1890.—Hubbard (U)..... 2,720; Shrubshall (U), 2,626; Oxley (U), 2,708; Cutler (U), 2,029; Pritchard (U), 2,026; Reynolds (U), 1,778.

HORNSEY.

W. E. Brown (U)..... 2,021  
J. Smith (U)..... 1,619  
Dr. Oldfield (U)..... 2,026  
No change.

1890.—Smith (U)..... 2,021; Brown (U), 2,026; Oldfield (U), 2,026; Pritchard (U), 2,026; Reynolds (U), 1,778.

HORNSEY.

W. E. Brown (U)..... 2,021  
J. Smith (U)..... 1,619  
Dr. Oldfield (U)..... 2,026  
No change.

1890.—Smith (U)..... 2,021; Brown (U), 2,026; Oldfield (U), 2,026; Pritchard (U), 2,026; Reynolds (U), 1,778.

HORNSEY.

W. E. Brown (U)..... 2,021  
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Dr. Oldfield (U)..... 2,026  
No change.

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HORNSEY.



## THE WAR.

## SUCCESSES BY FRENCH.

## BIG HAUL OF GUNS AND PRISONERS.

## SEVERE BOER LOSSES.

## MESSAGES FROM KITCHENER.

From Lord Kitchener to the War Office:

Middelburg, Feb. 24.—French reports from Piet Retief, 22nd inst., result of columns occupying Boer country east is that Boers are retreating in scattered disorganized parties to the number of some 5,000 in front of him.

Amsterdam, and Piet Retief are protected by the Boers, and troops are protecting the Swartkrans frontier.

French will push on, but is much hampered by continuous heavy rains.

Summary of total losses inflicted on enemy up to 18th inst.: 222. Men known to have been killed and wounded in action, 30; prisoners of war, 183 surrendered, one 15-pounder gun, 482 rifles, 100,000 rounds small arms ammunition, 3,000 horses, 76 mules, 3,300 trek oxen, 14,700 cattle, 350 sheep, 1,070 wagons and carts.

Our casualties, five officers, 41 men killed, four officers, 100 men wounded.

I regret to say that Major Howard, a very gallant officer of Canadian Scouts, was killed on 17th.

Plumer took 30 prisoners and some carts full of ammunition on 23rd, with De Wet's 15-pounder. We had no casualties.

## THE ARMY IN SOUTH AFRICA.

## OFFICIAL RETURN.

A Parliamentary return is issued of the military forces in South Africa. It appears from it that the number of "all arms sent to or raised in South Africa, up to Aug. 1, 1900," was 254,749 non-com. officers and men, together with 10,383 officers, making a total of 265,132. Further reinforcements from Aug. 1, 1900, to Jan. 21, 1901, brought the total up to 282,228.

That number was reduced on Jan. 21 last by 3,000 killed, 16,186 wounded, 9,200 died of disease or wounds, etc., 5,333 disbanded and discharged in S. Africa, and 14,131 in hospital on Dec. 28, making together 68,504; it has been further reduced by 26,911 troops who have left South Africa, including 40,736 sick and wounded who returned to England, and 12,323 who returned to England not invalidised. The strength of the forces in South Africa on Feb. 1 was 204,949, composed of 141,490 Regulars, 23,239 Colonial, 7,985 Imperial Yeomanry, 7,700 Voltigeurs, and 18,423 Militia. It is explained that the numbers of the recently-raised Colonials have not yet been reported.

## LIST OF CASUALTIES.

## DEATHS FROM DISEASE &amp; WOUNDS.

The following deaths, due to disease where not otherwise stated, are reported:—77th R.F.A.: 2321 (serj't H. Haygreen, Standerton, Feb. 21) 2nd Scottish Rgt.; 200 Pte J Kerr, Standerton, Feb. 21, dysentry.

De Wet's 15-pounder and pom-pom on the 23rd. The enemy is in full retreat and dispersing; he is being vigorously pursued. De Wet's attempt to invade Cape Colony has evidently completely failed.

## ON TO COLESBERG.

## DE WET MOVING IN AN EASTERLY DIRECTION.

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Middelburg, Feb. 24.

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## VICTORY BY PLUMER.

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## DE WET'S POSITION.

Once again the position of De Wet is somewhat vague, and the exact measure of success of the British columns operating against him is hard to determine. A Reuters message, dated De Aar, Feb. 25, says: "The combined forces of De Wet and Horrocks, numbering about 3,000 men, are now east of Phillipstown. They are reported to be moving in the direction of Colesberg.

THE ENEMY'S PLANS.

The enemy's front extends for several miles. They have made many led horses. The Boers have made several fruitless attempts to cross the Orange. Col. Thorneycroft is pushing from the west, and several columns are ready to meet the enemy in every direction. According to an official communication, detachments of Boers are reported north and south of Colesberg. The Orange River is falling fast.

INTERDICT MOVING EASTWARD.

Steyn is with De Wet, as are Herbig and Brand. There are indications that De Wet intends moving eastward with the object of attempting to break across the line between Nelspruit's Post and Naauwpoort.

## BOTHAS'S POSITION.

## NEGOTIATIONS ON THE TERMS OF SURRENDER IN PROGRESS.

Although the reported surrender of Louis Botha has not yet been officially confirmed, there is good reason to believe that negotiations of a very important character have been proceeding to that end between Botha and Lord Kitchener in the neighbourhood of Middelburg for the past few days.

With reference to this, the "Daily News" parliamentary representative learns that Gen. Botha has offered to surrender on certain conditions, and that pourparlers are still in progress. It will be remembered that Mr. Botha returned to Pretoria a few days ago after visiting his homeland. It is likely that an offer brought by him to Lord Kitchener forms the basis of negotiations.

## CAPTURED BOER AMMUNITION.

An "Standard" telegram, dated Durban, Feb. 23, says a large quantity of ammunition, captured from the Boers, was brought from Delagoa Bay to-day by the transport Ulstermore. It includes both rifle and artillery ammunition.

## CALVINA OCCUPIED.

## THE MURDER OF ESUAU.

A MILITARY FUNERAL.

Cape Town, Feb. 28.—The British column have occupied Calvina. The body of Esua, the native, who was forced and afterwards shot by the Boers, was found and interred

with military honours. The natives generally are highly pleased at the news. The Boer invaders are described as being horribly dirty and ragged. The commandants behaved like despotic brutes.—Central News.

The following telegram from Sir A. Milner to the Secretary for War regarding the reported outrage on the man Esua at Calvina is issued as a Parliamentary Paper:—

"Cape Town, Feb. 22.—District surgeon's name is Smuts. He has been in the service 10 years. There is absolutely no doubt about the murder of Esua."

## NORTHERN RAILWAY CUT BY BOERS.

Pretoria, Feb. 27.—The railway from Pietersburg to Warmbaths, a distance of about 120 miles, has been cut near the latter place, and is now in the hands of the enemy. Yesterday the Boers brought down a train, made observations, and returned north. Their immediate object, evidently, is to destroy the bridge over the Pienaar River. At Esoraafabrik last night the enemy succeeded in removing some cattle, although they were shelled by our guns.—Central News.

Warmbaths is 84 miles north of Pretoria, with which town it is connected by train.

## SIR A. MILNER.

Sir A. Milner left Cape Town for the north on Wednesday. In a letter to the Mayor of Cape Town, Mr. Henley, he declared that, though duty called him away, he was not taking leave of the work on which he had been engaged. He should still labour in the service of South Africa and for the welfare of her people.

## DE WET'S 15-POUNDER.

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## "THE PEOPLE" MIXTURE.

In London 2,673 births and 1,833 deaths were registered last week. The births were 151, and the deaths 136, below the average. The annual death rate per 1,000 from all causes further rose last week to 32.5.

The 1,833 deaths included 86 from measles, 27 from diphtheria, and 52 from whooping cough.

The deaths attributed directly to influenza numbered 24, having been 15, and 16 in the preceding three weeks.

Different forms of violence caused 75 deaths, concerning all but one of which inquests were held.

Of these 5 were cases of suicide and 1 of homicide, while the remaining 69 were attributed to accident or negligence.

In Greater London 3,206 births and 2,132 deaths were registered, corresponding to annual rates of 30.8 and 11.8 per 1,000 of the estimated population.

The deaths registered last week in 22 great towns of England and Wales corresponded to an annual rate of 21.2 per 1,000 of their aggregate populations, which is estimated at 11,750,000 persons in the middle of this year.

The King spent 17 weeks in India in 1898.

England spends £250,000 a year on blacking.

Indian opium sold to China fetches £1,000 a ton.

In Dickens' 24 novels there are 1,425 characters.

France has the most expensive Parliament. It costs £200,000 a year.

The bantam is the heaviest bird that flies. The record for a cock bantam is 60 lbs.

The banana is 44 times more productive than the potato, and 122 times more so than wheat.

Mexico has twelve different languages in its borders. Austria five, the British Isles four.

The Russian new armoured cruiser Ovid is the only vessel in the world with five funnels.

America grows 425,000,000 worth of cotton. We export £20,000,000 worth of manufactured cotton.

Green peas contain 22 per cent. of nourishing food, potatoes 1 per cent. less, and cucumbers only 6 per cent.

The King's first separate residence was White Lodge, Richmond, where he was given a suite of rooms in 1898.

London is the most thickly populated parish in England, having 112 persons to the acre. Bolton comes next.

Two hundred and twenty thousand acres of the United Kingdom are in orchard, but yet we buy 100,000 tons of apples a year abroad.

Six hundred and fifteen million telephone messages were interchanged in England last year, beating the number of telegrams nine times.

The tube of a film gun has 10 special grooves, causing its projectile to revolve 75 times per second as it leaves the muzzle.

Eight million gallons of rock-oil and two million tons of coal are pumped or dug each year from under the bed of the sea.

Sixty years ago 25 per cent. of all the sugar made was from sugar-cane. To-day only 3 per cent. of the total produced is from cane.

The only European country with a lower death-rate than England is Norway. Our rate has fallen from 21 to 17 per 1,000 in the last 20 years.

The King's first official appearance in the City of London was in October, 1898. He and his father went in a State barge, rowed by 25 watermen.

In the Arctic regions there are between 700 and 800 varieties of flowers. They are mostly either white or yellow.

A twentieth of Scotland's area is forest land, seven-tenths is mountain, heath and lake, and only one-quarter cultivated land.

As many as 110,000 bottles of champagne are stored in the vaults of French producers. They represent a cost price of £10,000,000.

During last year British life-boats were launched 333 times and rescued 578 persons. Shore boats round our coast saved 175 lives.

The long-lived people have generally been those who made breakfast the principal meal of the day. The stomach has more vigour in the morning than at any time.

At the Guild of Women Binders, Pond-st., Hampstead, this (Sunday) evening, Miss M. E. Nibbs will lecture on "The Heart of Ancient India."

A well-known three-card-trick man of Dudley Hill was sentenced to six months' imprisonment at Castleford, near Leeds, for card-chopping in a Denziner train.

Greens will copy the Swiss Army system. Instead of three years' consecutive service, recruits will drill 100 days in the first year, and 50 days every year thereafter for 12 years.

The King went to Canada at the age of 18, and personally laid the foundations-stones of the Parliament buildings at Ottawa, and opened the huge bridge over the St. Lawrence at Montreal.

Stuttering is considered contagious in Germany. There are over 50,000 stammering children in the schools of that country, and the number is steadily increasing.

Bicycles are generally considered very modern inventions; but some of the Egyptian obelisks bear figures mounted on two-wheel vehicles resembling the old velocipedes.

Some watch screws are so small that their threads are invisible to the naked eye, and it takes 164,000 screws to weigh a pound. A pound of them is as valuable as six pounds of gold.

Dances will be held at Helbers Town Hall to-morrow evening and on Thursday at Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-st. At the former a new continental dance will be included in the programme.

Italian macaroni is no longer made by hand, but by machinery. According to the British Consul at Naples, about 50,000 cases of macaroni are annually exported to England and 300,000 to the United States.

At Finchley, this week, Mr. E. J. May delivered his Parliamentary lecture, "Banana Big Ben," to a large gathering of the local inhabitants. The audience, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the lecturer for his interesting discourse.

The Swiss President is newly elected every year from the Bundesrat in rotation. He must first serve as vice-president of that body. The office, while never shirked by the patriotic citizens of the little state in the mountains, is no sinecure, and pays the holder about £200 per annum in salary. While the work attached to the position is considerable, the power

is practically nil, as the president can not even appoint cabinet officers.

India's arts worth £100 a mile on the average.

In 1897 1,200,000 tons of coal were dug in the Transvaal.

The sun, earth, and stars are all made of the same elements.

A steel ship carries one-fifth more cargo than an iron one.

Unison's horns used to be sold by apothecaries as medicine at £25 an ounce.

The average price of the world's wine crop wholesale is but £6. 6d. a gallon.

A granite footpath costs £10. a square yard to lay, and a penny a year to keep in order.

An English factory hand produces £200 worth of goods in a year, a German only £120.

The death was announced at Peking of Dr. Douglas, a well-known resident.

British Navy manufacture has declined from 350 millions of yards in 1880 to 170 millions.

The Canadian salt companies are going to combine in a trust, under the title of the Canadian Salt Co.

The detective police of Berlin, after April 1st, will be supplied with bicycles.

It seems probable that all the great cities of India will have special memorials to Queen Victoria.

British capitalists are perfecting a deal to buy every silk factory in the United States.

The foundation-stone of the new municipal buildings at Barnettsbury, East Ham, was laid this week.

The Empress Eugenie is at her Villa Cyrnos at Cap Martin, where she is awaiting H.H.H. Princess Beatrice, who is going for a long visit.

It is estimated by the makers of artificial limbs that there are 200,000 Englishmen who have lost one or both legs.

The inhabitants of Edmonton propose to purchase a plot of land to erect thereon 15 almshouses as a memorial to the late Queen.

Umbrellas are rarely seen in Puyeh, Peru. It is the direct opposite on earth.

The average interval between two showers of rain is seven years.

No able-bodied man need be idle in New Zealand. The Government gives every applicant work, and pays him at the rate of £6. a day.

The total shipping tonnage placed on the Clyde during February was 15,000, as against 18,000 orders for 20,000 tons.

The President for the new Elated is Col. D. Ross Lewis, V.D. It will be held in Poynderton Park, and a suitable pavilion is to be erected.

The establishment of a mint in Canada will make the fourth branch of the British mint working outside England.

The original currency in the United States was "specie," which was the coin of the Red Indians. It was adopted in 1867.

The Duncan, one of His Majesty's new first-class armoured cruisers, will be launched at Blackwall on March 21st.

The perfumes of Rome lived in a special quarter, which was the fashionable lounge of the wealthy young nobles.

**NAVAL AND MILITARY.**

Col. William yesterday became command of the 2nd Bn. Royal Scots, in succession to Lieut.-Col. Sandeman, retired.

Col. Grogan, of the Cambridge University R.V., Lieut.-Col. Williamson, of the Royal Engineers, and Lieut.-Col. Ross, of the Royal Engineers, of the 2nd Bn. Royal Scots.

The Duncan, one of His Majesty's new first-class armoured cruisers, will be launched at Blackwall on March 21st.

The perfumes of Rome lived in a special quarter, which was the fashionable lounge of the wealthy young nobles.

## PEOPLE'S HEROES—CXLVIII.

### SAILOR'S PLUCKY ACTION.

The heroic attempt to save a comrade made by Edward J. Crocker, pay officer, H.M.S. *Castor*, at Milford Haven, has gained him the coveted medal of the Royal Humane Society. A brother officer, named Pittwood, attempted to save him.

Unison's horns used to be sold by apothecaries as medicine at £25 an ounce.

The average price of the world's wine crop wholesale is but £6. 6d. a gallon.

A granite footpath costs £10. a square yard to lay, and a penny a year to keep in order.

An English factory hand produces £200 worth of goods in a year, a German only £120.

The death was announced at Peking of Dr. Douglas, a well-known resident.

British Navy manufacture has declined from 350 millions of yards in 1880 to 170 millions.

The Canadian salt companies are going to combine in a trust, under the title of the Canadian Salt Co.

The detective police of Berlin, after April 1st, will be supplied with bicycles.

It seems probable that all the great cities of India will have special memorials to Queen Victoria.

British capitalists are perfecting a deal to buy every silk factory in the United States.

The foundation-stone of the new municipal buildings at Barnettsbury, East Ham, was laid this week.

The Empress Eugenie is at her Villa Cyrnos at Cap Martin, where she is awaiting H.H.H. Princess Beatrice, who is going for a long visit.

It is estimated by the makers of artificial limbs that there are 200,000 Englishmen who have lost one or both legs.

The inhabitants of Edmonton propose to purchase a plot of land to erect thereon 15 almshouses as a memorial to the late Queen.

Umbrellas are rarely seen in Puyeh, Peru. It is the direct opposite on earth.

The average interval between two showers of rain is seven years.

No able-bodied man need be idle in New Zealand. The Government gives every applicant work, and pays him at the rate of £6. a day.

The total shipping tonnage placed on the Clyde during February was 15,000, as against 18,000 orders for 20,000 tons.

The President for the new Elated is Col. D. Ross Lewis, V.D. It will be held in Poynderton Park, and a suitable pavilion is to be erected.

The establishment of a mint in Canada will make the fourth branch of the British mint working outside England.

The original currency in the United States was "specie," which was the coin of the Red Indians. It was adopted in 1867.

The Duncan, one of His Majesty's new first-class armoured cruisers, will be launched at Blackwall on March 21st.

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**THE TRAIN MURDER.**

PARKER SENTENCED TO DEATH AT THE OLD BAILEY.

At the Old Bailey, before Justice Phillips, George Henry Hill, or Parker, was placed on his trial for the wilful murder of William Parsons, a gentleman farmer, of Winchelsea, in a carriage on the London and South-Western Railway, on Jan. 17.—Mr. Gill prosecuted; Mr. Purcell Clapton appeared for accused.—Parsons, a powerful-looking man, 22 years of age, plied not easily. He was perfectly cool and collected throughout, and frequently bowed notes to his accuser.

PARSONS' CONFESSION.

In opening, Mr. Gill said this was not a case in which the jury would be called upon to examine a mass of circumstantial evidence, prisoner having been taken, if not red-handed, certainly in fresh pursuit just afterwards, with the personal property of deceased man in his possession. Several times, both verbally and in writing, he had admitted that he was the hand that slew deceased. Counsel then proposed to relate the now well-known story of the tragedy, and reminded the court that prisoner afterwards made a full confession of the crime in a letter (already published), written to his father, Mr. J. Parker, of Stretford, Warwickshire.—No witnesses were called for the defence, but Mr. Clarke, addressing the jury, argued that, owing to a drinking bout, prisoner must have been temporarily insane. The jury, after a brief retirement, found prisoner guilty.

JUDGE CONVICTIONS.

In the Court of Appeal, on Thursday, Lord Justice Birley, Vaughan Williams, and Stirling gave judgment in favour of the conviction.

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**THE PRIMATE.**

ON ENGLAND AND THE PROPAGATION OF THE GOSPEL.

The Archbishop of Canterbury opened a four days' Missionary and Colonial Exhibition to celebrate the bi-centenary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. In the course of his remarks Grace said there had been a very wonderful change in the relations of all nations during the century just passed, and our intercourse with them all had become much more frequent and easy. Nothing created greater interest in other places than to know all about them. Therefore, if they were to preach the Gospel to people, to know all about them was one of the best preliminaries. The only question was how they could do it quickly and well. They had only to look at that portion of the globe which we ourselves were accomplished fact. With Mr. C. E. Tritton, M.P., as chairman, the committee got up at the outset and initiated that, in face of the opposition aroused, it had been decided to print the objectionable code no further. Mr. Freeman, K.C., for the L.C.C., maintained that, as far as possible, the proceedings should go on, and he would have called something like 50 witnesses to testify against the committee's arrangements.

**BRICKWELL PARK EXTENSION SCHEME.**

## THE YARMOUTH MURDER.

## BENNETT'S TRIAL AT THE OLD BAILEY.

SCENES IN COURT.

## STRANGE STORY OF A CHAIN. CONFLICTING EVIDENCE.

STARTLING ALIBI.

Not since the Maybrick trial has a murder case aroused so much interest and excitement as the trial of Robert John Bennett for the murder of his wife on the sands at Yarmouth in September. The hearing commenced at the Old Bailey on Monday.



BENNETT.

Before the Lord Chief Justice, the accused had been transferred to London from Norwich Assizes on the ground that local prejudice would rob Bennett of a fair trial. Never very commons, the Central Criminal Court was absurdly inadequate for the accommodation of all who wished to be present—even for some who had been there. By the desire of the Lord of Justice no ladies were admitted; by the desire of both sides the list of witnesses were kept out of court.

**PRISONER IN THE DOCK.** Just as the clock struck 11 the Lord of Justice took his seat on the bench. Bennett was brought up the stairs, and charged. "Not guilty," he replied, and he was allowed to sit down. Every eye court was turned upon him. He was very composed, and as brisk and as usual. He looked like a young shopman, and seemed to interest in the case. Mr. Gill, in the prosecution; Mr. Marshall Hall for the defence.

Mr. Gill, in his opening speech, detailed the evidence to be called for prosecution. The narrative ran to the end. On the morning of Sept. 23 the dead body of a woman was found on Yarmouth Beach. She had strangled, and a mohair bootlace was around her neck so tight it could not be undone—so tight, indeed, that it could hardly be cut without breaking the skin of the neck. The woman's clothes were disordered. It was clear that she had been murdered.

There was no clue to the identity of the woman. She had been staying for a week with her baby, at the lodgings of a Mrs. Rudrum. There she was known as Mrs. Hood, from the fact that a letter had come for her addressed to that name and bearing a Woolwich post-mark. Nothing could be learnt about the man, and on Oct. 29 the coroner's jury returned an open verdict that a man unknown had been murdered.

**THE ARREST OF BENNETT.**

Week later Bennett was arrested. The woman's clothing was the only mark 509. Exhaustive inquiries were made for that clue, particularly in the neighbourhood of Woolwich. It was found that such a mark had been used in connection with a small house at Bexley Heath, and a Mrs. Bennett had lived there with the baby, that she had disappeared, and that prisoner was her husband.

Bennett was charged with killing a woman named Hood—relationship to her was not mentioned. "I don't understand what you mean," he replied. "I have

NEVER BEEN TO YARMOUTH.

"I have not lived with my wife since January, as I found a lot of letters in her pocket from another man." A portmanteau at his lodgings had been found a long gold chain and a silver watch. Those articles belonged to deceased woman, and she had, wearing them at Yarmouth on the day of the murder. Mr. Gill then traced the history of the chain, and how they separated. He related the incidents which took place the night of the murder, and some acquaintance with Miss Meadows, whom he was to marry at Yarmouth.

**WITNESSES CALLED.**

Mr. Gill called his witnesses. After giving the evidence of the constable who found the body, two doctors Dr. Letts, police surgeon, and Dr. O'Farrell, assistant medical officer, described the post mortem. Death was due to strangulation. The neck had been pressed in inch, and the woman probably only two or three minutes. There were abrasions on the chin, suggesting that the blouse had first fastened there, and then forced on the neck.—Mr. O'Farrell added that his later views did not coincide with those expressed at the inquest as to the woman having been strangled.

**A FINEFUL PHOTOGRAPH.**

For nearly two hours the court dealt with photographs and gold chains. Two days before her death, Bennett was photographed by a charwoman. She was wearing at the time the gold chain bequeathed to her by grandmother—which chain, the prosecution, was found in the hands of Bennett after the murder. The chain had been passed in the Treasury and the defence produced elaborate enlargements of cheap little seaside portrait in colour, tin frame. There are expert photographs of the accused, and others. At first Mr. Marshall Hall seemed to establish his point. He handed two chains to the beach photographer, a "rope" and a "link," and he asked that two were like that in the picture. Conyers selected the one which had been supplied by a jeweller, rejected that which admitted to Mrs. Bennett. He said somewhat under Mr. Gill, the judge said his difficulty was that the chain in the beach portrait did not seem to be in focus.—Mr. Gill, and another Yarmouth

photographer then said that the movement of breathing might falsify the picture of the chain by shifting the high lights—Lloyd's cashier at Westgate, called to prove that Bennett withdrew £200 in February, was asked if he saw Bennett in court. He looked carefully over the jury-box and the bench, and said he did not.

## THE BROKEN WATCH CHAIN.

After some formal evidence, Mrs. Elliston, of Wickham, Plumstead, was called. The Bennett's stayed at her house after their dying visit to the Cape. Mrs. Elliston said prisoner was not at all kind to his wife; she was always crying. The watch and chain were produced.

"I think that is the w-a-t-c-h," said witness. "Mrs. Bennett used to give it to the baby to play with, and the baby used to bite it. This looks like the chain. The baby broke it, and I fastened the pieces together with cotton."

When I saw the chain at Yarmouth, the cotton was there. I don't see it now." It turned out that witness had only part of the chain in her hand. The other part was produced, and witness then said: "This is the cotton."

When Mrs. Bennett went to Bexley Heath prison she said to her: "I don't want to live with you again. The baby is nothing to me—no more than you are." That was that Mrs. Bennett said. "I shall follow you for the sake of the baby, and get you off the scene."

## THE DAY OF THE MURDER.

—Mrs. Pankhurst, of Union-st, Woolwich, at whose house Bennett lodged, said he passed as a single man, and when the telegram came from Bexley Heath, summoning him to his wife's bedside, he explained that it was his cousin's wife who was ill. On Sept. 23, the day of the murder, he left home to catch a train, but did not say where he was going. The next day, Sunday, he returned. He was dirty, and wore a light grey suit. What was unusual for him on a Sunday, that she exclaimed, "surely you are not going to see Alice like that?" He replied, "Oh, that's all right; Alice doesn't mind." In reply to Mr. Gill, witness said that at first she could not remember the date, Sept. 22. She fixed it afterwards from the fact that it was her grandmother's birthday, and on that day Stevens, another lodger left the house.

## A QUESTION OF LIFE OR DEATH.

Usually she and her husband went to bed about 10 p.m. on Saturdays. Bennett stayed out later, and let himself in, so they could not tell until morning whether he was in or not. On the 23d they had a party and did not go to bed until 11 o'clock.—Mr. Gill: For all you know, then, Mr. Bennett may have come in that night and gone to bed?—Witness: "I don't know. Did he sleep at your house that night? Remember, it's a matter of life or death."—Witness (emphatically): I am certain he never did.

John Conyers and William Henry Parratt, two young men who live at Woolwich, and who were friends of Bennett, disproved the alibi first set up by prisoner. When arrested, Bennett said that on the night of the murder, Sept. 22, he was with Cameron and Parratt at Rose's Distillery, Woolwich. They now swore that the meeting occurred on Sept. 23, and that on the 22d they did not see Bennett.

## MISS MEADOWS CALLED.

—Alice Amelia Meadows, of York-st, Stepney, prisoner's sweetheart, was next called, a slight, pale girl. She was introduced to Beckett on Sunday, July 1. He said he was a grocer's assistant out of work. No thing was said about him being in a bind or single. The boy wrote to a school, and met on Thursdays and Sundays.

He was not his to sell. Mr. Hall repeated the confrontation test of the police-court. At that inquiry witness said the man's waistcoat was of a square or clerical cut. Prisoner stood up in the dock and displayed his waistcoat, which was one of the ordinary double-breasted pattern, cut "V"-shape at the opening. Bennett again opened his coat. "But he wore no tie," said witness, "and that would make all the difference."

"Take off your tie," said Mr. Hall. Prisoner did so, and his overcoat as well.

## THE DEATH-CRY.

The young beach lover, Alfred Mason and Blanch Smith, repeated their story of what they saw and heard that night. They saw a man and woman sit down, they heard the woman cry, "Mercy, mercy!" and groan, and they saw the man lying across the woman as they left. Mason said his first impression was that the man wore a dark blue suit and a cap. Next morning, after the body had been found, he saw such a man near the scene of the murder looking very agitated. He followed the man, but lost sight of him at the Beach Gardens.

## WAITER'S EVIDENCE.

Evidence was given by Read, the waiter, and Goddard, the boots, as to prisoner's visits to the Crown and Anchor Hotel at Yarmouth. He stayed there with Alice Meadows on the August Bank Holiday. On the 22d he appeared again, a little before midnight. He had been hurrying, and he explained that by saying he had missed his train, and had walked from Gorleston. Again he left by the 7.30 train in the morning. He explained that by saying he was down on business, and that he should be there every Saturday for three months.

## DETECTIVE'S EVIDENCE.

—Det.-insp. Lingwood, Great Yarmouth, said that when he received information of the dead body he went on the beach to ascertain that a woman was missing from Rudrum. In the woman's room there he found the beach photograph and purse—which contained the key of Gloucester Villa, half of a first-class excursion ticket from Liverpool-st., dated Aug. 15—and a gold "Baby" brooch. He found no letters or papers. He produced the clothes of the deceased, and the lace which was cut from the neck. He found two articles marked "509" and a petticoat with the same mark. He also produced a small black handbag. Cross-examined by Mr. Marshall

until then that she knew he had a wife and child.

—MISS MEADOWS CROSS-EXAMINED.

Mr. Marshall Hall dealt first with the circumstances of Bennett's introduction to witness. She said he seemed much attached to her, and she was much attached to him. He treated her very well. Although she went away with him for a fortnight he made no attempt to take advantage of her situation, but treated her throughout as a gentleman should. She had relatives at Yarmouth, and she wanted to spend her holidays with them. It was so that she should not miss her visit to Yarmouth that he took her there for the Bank Holiday, before the Irish trip. Witness said Bennett seemed to have plenty of money. He told her he traded in second-hand violin. He also told her—which was not true—that his mother had left him a large sum of money.

## A STORY IN THE PRISONER.

Bennett telephoned to her about 6 p.m. on September 22—she believed from Charing Cross. It was after witness had said she was uncomfortable in her place that Bennett suggested they should be married at Christmas instead of in June. She did not notice that Bennett looked as if he had come from a long journey when she met him on Sept. 22. The only thing she noticed was his grey suit.

She never saw him wearing a Trinity hat or a waistcoat of clerical pattern. Miss Meadows exchanged a smile with Bennett as she left the court.

## LANDLADY'S EVIDENCE.

—Mrs. Rudrum was then recalled.—Mr. Marshall Hall: How would you spell the name of Bennett? Witness spelled it first with one "e," then with two. "You said, one 'e' first. I meant two 'e's." Where did you find the petticoat?

Hanging up by the bed. It was afterwards put in a drawer, and not again produced till I was asked for it.—The Lord Chief Justice: Can you explain how the petticoat, which was hanging up on a peg in the woman's room, was not discovered on the morning the search was made? No, my lord. I understand only that this woman by the name of Hood, and did not know her name was Bennett until you came to search for your letters after prisoner was arrested? That is so, my lord.

## A FAITHFUL WITNESS.

—Mrs. Rudrum was then recalled.—Mr. Marshall Hall: How would you spell the name of Bennett? Witness spelled it first with one "e," then with two. "You said, one 'e' first. I meant two 'e's." Where did you find the petticoat?

Hanging up by the bed. It was afterwards put in a drawer, and not again produced till I was asked for it.—The Lord Chief Justice: Can you explain how the petticoat, which was hanging up on a peg in the woman's room, was not discovered on the morning the search was made? No, my lord. I understand only that this woman by the name of Hood, and did not know her name was Bennett until you came to search for your letters after prisoner was arrested? That is so, my lord.

## OVERSTATED BY PRISONER.

—Chief Constable Pixton, Yarmouth, said the name of Bennett was not known in reference to the case until Nov. 16. He described the finding of the watch and chain in the prisoner's portmanteau. There were two pearl necklaces, 16 letters from Alice Meadows, receipt from the Crown and Anchor, a revolver, some collar marked "509," two wigs (a man's and a woman's), a moustache, and other things. He saw prisoner at Woolwich Police Station, who said he wished witness to see Mrs. Pankhurst, who could say where he was, and to send a wire to his sweetheart at Stepney. Witness afterwards went to Glencoe-villes, where he found the blinds drawn and the furniture packed. The linen sheet was marked "509." They used the key found on the dead woman. There was an empty spectacle case and

## A BOTTLE OF HAIR DYE.

on one of the mantel-pieces. He saw Alice Meadows later, and she handed him the letters from Bennett, a brooch, and other things. Prisoner was taken to Yarmouth on Nov. 8. Miss Rudrum came to the office and gave him the letter asking for rooms. She saw the watch and chain lying on his desk, and said at once that that was the watch and chain belonging to Mrs. Hood. No suggestion was made to her. That she saw them was accidental. Witness asked her what was peculiar about the articles, and she said that if witness opened the watch

## CASE OF A CHILD'S THIEF.

would be found on the envelope of the letter, which came for Miss Hood on Sept. 21.

—William Thomas Borking, manager of the South Quay Distillery, Yarmouth, said that on Saturday night, Sept. 22, between 9.30 and 10, a lady and gentleman came into the bar. The beach portrait showed the lady; prisoner in the dock was the man.

It was a link chain, with little balls like this, but I took it to be longer links." When she saw that a man named Bennett had been arrested she remembered a letter with such a signature received by her some time earlier. She found the letter (that which was sent by prisoner from Woolwich asking for release for the Bank Holiday). Witness came to the conclusion that the handwriting was the same as that on the envelope of the letter, which came for Miss Hood on Sept. 21.

—William Thomas Borking, manager of the South Quay Distillery, Yarmouth, said that on Saturday night, Sept. 22, between 9.30 and 10, a lady and gentleman came into the bar.

The beach portrait showed the lady; prisoner in the dock was the man. He was wearing a grey suit and a stick.

He was wearing a grey suit and a stick. "Like what?" asked the judge. "Gin and water?" asked the judge. "Gin and water," replied witness. "Gin and Johnny Walker," replied witness.

Daughter.—In answer to Mr. Hall, witness said the glasses used by the pair were

## POYNTON IN THE CAPE.

unwashed, and were there still. He could not say that he had refused a considerable sum for them. They were not his to sell. Mr. Hall repeated the confrontation test of the police-court. At that inquiry witness said the man's waistcoat was of a square or clerical cut. Prisoner stood up in the dock and displayed his waistcoat, which was one of the ordinary double-breasted pattern, cut "V"-shape at the opening. Bennett again opened his coat. "But he wore no tie," said witness, "and that would make all the difference."

"Take off your tie," said Mr. Hall. Prisoner did so, and his overcoat as well.

## A PROFOUND PHOTOGRAPH.

—Alfred Stevens, photographer, produced the negative of one of the photographs of deceased. In reply to Mr. Marshall Hall, witness said the portrait was out of focus.

He could not say whether the chain shown was rope or link in pattern. The chain in the negative was blurred.—Mr. Marshall Hall: Have you seen the photo of the man?

—Mr. Gill: Cross-examined at considerable length. Witness said he had been in business for some years, and it was customary for him to take country walks. Prisoners practically forced himself on his company, and remained with him for an hour. His impression at the time was that the man wanted a drink.—Mr. Gill: And your wish to get rid of him induced you to spend half-an-hour in conversation with him in a public-house? I could not very well insult him by telling him to go.

## COURTESY OF THE JUDGE.

—The Lord Chief Justice put some pointed questions to witness with the object of testing his credibility. In reply, witness said he fixed the date by a particular order which he took on Sept. 22. He could not remember taking any other long walk in September, and was not well acquainted with the Tiger public-house. He was confident, however, as to the date, and that prisoner was the man who was in his company.

## CASUAL CONVERSATION RE-CALLED.

—Mrs. Cato, of Balham, said prisoner and his wife lived in her house from September, 1890, and he always behaved very kindly to his wife. Witness did not consider that deceased woman was a good wife. On one occasion she told witness that a cousin had saved her from getting into trouble through her having posed as a single woman when she was married.—Mr. Marshall Hall put innumerable questions as to deceased having possessed two watches and two chains, the witness asserting that such was the case. She further stated that while at her house a man called and inquired for the deceased. The man was not unlike the prisoner.—In the course of

A REVERSE CROSS-EXAMINATION.

at the hands of Mr. Gill, witness said it was true that she had stated to a newspaper representative that the Bennetts were in the habit of making from £5 to £6 a day by purchasing cheap violins and disposing of them through the medium of a certain newspaper, and that prisoner when he came to her house told her that he had £1,200 in the bank. Witness remembered that on one occasion, in the course of a conversation on the subject of slaughtering, prisoner remarked that it would be much better to strangle pigs than stick them; it would be a quicker and better death.

—Mr. Gill: Why did you keep back from the police this important fact, as you allege, of deceased having possessed two chains?—Witness (after a lengthy pause): The principal reason was that I thought I should not be believed.

(Yesterday's proceedings will be found on another page.)

In a few words the BOYNTON IN THE CAPE case will affect a permanent era in the law, and it is a momentous epoch in the history of our country. The trial of the accused, Mr. Gill, will be a trial of the law, and the decision of the court will be a trial of the law.

He heard of the case about eight o'clock. He did not go to the beach till later in the day. He accidentally learned, almost at once that a woman was missing from Rudrum's house, and he went straight to the place. He did not go to the hotel, but went subordinate officers. Their inquiries were fruitless. He knew that the watch and chain were missing and tried to find them. He saw Borking on Tuesday, the 22nd, and was told by him that he had skinned the basket, but witness never saw it.—Witness said he received the petition on Jan. 16. Counsel asked for deceased's petition, which was handed to witness. Who agreed that it was strange that the name of Bennett on the garment should be spelt with one "e". Mrs. Rudrum told witness that deceased had a good deal of money when she got there, but that she said that it depended on what money she got from her cousin whether she stayed long or not.

## MISS RUDRUM RECALLED.

—Mrs. Rudrum was then recalled.—Mr. Marshall Hall: How would you spell the name of Bennett? Witness said it first with one "e," then with two. "You said, one 'e' first. I meant two 'e's." Where did you find the petition?





